



ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 16, 2018 | Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 Service

GATHERING

GREETING

Donald R. Frampton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Today is the third Sunday of Advent and we light this candle as a symbol of God's love for us and our love for one another. For the Lord renews us with gladness, and renews us in his love. He exalts over us with singing and turns our shame to praise.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*) from Isaiah 12:2-3

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy name of the most high God.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Trust and do not be afraid.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of peace.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation. Hallelujah! Amen.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

†*HYMN 107

"Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn"

REJOICE, REJOICE

CALL TO CONFESSION

As John the Baptist called the people to repent, as Jesus calls us now, we turn to the one who is both judge and savior, trusting that repentance opens the door to new life, and that peace beyond all measure has been promised to us. Let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

In your presence Holy God, we confess that we need repentance. We have broken your commands against idolatry. We do not live in peace with your creation or your people. We have trusted your word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise, for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news and for the sake of all the world. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of the one God who lives and moves among us, you are forgiven. The Lord has taken away the judgements against you. Do not worry. Live in Peace.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON (*response: Thanks be to God.*)

Luke 3:7-18

SECOND LESSON (*response: Thanks be to God.*)

Philippians 4:4-9

SERMON

"The Lord Is Near"

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA)*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain, and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE OFFERING

*Prayer of Dedication

*Doxology (Hymn 606)

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDRETH

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

SENDING

*HYMN 82

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*VOLUNTARY

SCAPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FRONT DOOR WREATHS are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Richmond's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Berckes, and Mr. Randolph Richmond, Jr. by Mrs. Randolph Richmond.

THE ADVENT BANNERS were donated in memory of Kit and Tom Favrot.

8:30 USHERS: Mayson Buffington, Charlie King, Wesley Simon, and Thomas Schulingkamp

10:30 USHERS: Roger Fleshman (captain), Leon Hinson, Maureen Herring, Casey Root, Sallee Benjamin, Jay Young, Caty Trammell Johnson, Jane Rasi, Kandice and Mike Snow

TODAY

8:30 a.m. | Worship with communion in the Chapel
8:30 a.m. | Nursery open until 12:00 p.m.
8:30 a.m. | Ringers & Singers Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. | Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. | Worship in the Sanctuary (Celebration of Carols)
11:30 a.m. | Cherub Choir Rehearsal
12:00 p.m. | YAF Brunch/Gift Exchange at Carlisle home
5:00 p.m. | Youth Group Christmas Party

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Reflections: In lieu of an Advent devotional book this year, SCAPC members have prepared a series of "Advent Reflections" which have been published in the latest issue of *The View*. The issue is posted at www.scapc.org/publications.

Youth Group Christmas Party: Join us for a jolly good time in the Youth Room tonight at 5:00 for our annual Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange! Please bring a wrapped gift under \$10. Re-gifting and odd gifts are encouraged. This is our last youth group of 2018.

Kendra Scott Evening to Benefit STAIR: Drop by the Kendra Scott jewelry store at 5757 Magazine Street this **Tuesday, December 18th between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.** for an evening of shopping and giving! 20% of your purchase will be donated to the STAIR (Start the Adventure in Reading) program founded by and housed here at SCAPC.

A Senior Adults' Christmas Comedy Gathering will take place **Thursday, December 20**, and will feature Comedian Mike Strecker and a carol Sing-A-Long with Steven Blackmon. The party is 5-6:30 p.m. in the Land Building, and the cost is \$20/person, inclusive of wine and appetizers. It's not too late to sign up! RSVP with your check (made out to SCAPC) to Bonnie Shoemaker at 1545 State St., NOLA 70118.

SCAPC's own **Carrollton Christmas Camp** was created to offer enriching activities to children in the Carrollton neighborhood during their Christmas break. Camp will be held at SCAPC December 26-28 and January 2-4. This year, we need helpers to cook meals, lead groups of campers, and assist our activity teachers. To volunteer, contact De Wells Smith at wisewsd@gmail.com. If you are unavailable, you can still donate by visiting www.scapc.org.

12/17 | Session Meeting (please note new time: **5:30 p.m.**)

12/18 | STAIR Benefit Event at Kendra Scott

12/20 | Senior Adults Christmas Party

12/23 | Fourth Sunday of Advent (No Sunday School or childcare)

12/24 | 4:00 p.m. Family Service with Tableau (with childcare)

12/24 | 7:00 p.m. Lessons & Carols Service (no childcare)

12/25 | Christmas Day

12/25-12/26 | Church office closed

12/26-28 and 1/2-4 | Carrollton Christmas Camp

12/30 | Single service at 9:30 a.m. (No Sunday School or childcare)

1/1 | New Year's Day: Church office closed

CALENDAR



NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULT CLASSES BEGINNING JANUARY 6

Roles and Obligations of Christians to Implement the Moral Teachings of Jesus | LB Riverside Room | led by Bill Banta and Beth Poe

Psalms, Then and Now | Chapel | led by: Richard Ashmore and John Galbraith

Parenting in the Pew | 2nd floor conference room

Brochures with class descriptions are located in the friendship pads.

SMALL GROUPS

For further details on the groups below, please refer to www.scapc.org or to the "Getting Involved" brochures in your Friendship Register, and feel free to take one home!

Aden Elder Care Tuesdays & Thursdays | 10 a.m.-2 p.m. |

Contact: Adelle Bergman, aden@scapc.org

CBD Study Group Wednesdays | 7 a.m. | 625 St. Charles Ave. |

Contact: John Morton, johnmorton@cox.net

Men's Bible Study will resume in January

Middle School Girls Small Group Evening events TBA | Contact:

Bria Rault, bria@scapc.org

Presbyterian Women's Circles (monthly Bible Studies)

· **Monday Lunch** | 2nd Monday | 11:45 a.m. | LB, Riverside

· **Monday Lambeth House** | 2nd Monday | 2:30 p.m.

· **Tuesday Evening** | 2nd Tuesday | 5:45 p.m. | LB, Lakeside

Contact for all: Ebie Strauss, ebiestrauss@yahoo.com

Presbyterian Women's Needleworks Group Thursdays |

10 a.m.-Noon | LB, Lakeside | Contact: Mary Ann Mott, 504-581-4424

Presbyterian Women's Book Club Third Thursdays | 5 p.m.

LB Lakeside | Contact: Elizabeth Artigues, artigues4@cox.net

Senior High Small Group Alternating Wednesday evenings |

7:00 p.m. | 3rd Floor Youth Room | Contact: Jessie Bruggers,

j.bruggers@gmail.com

Spiritually Hungry Women Wednesdays | 12:30-1:45 p.m.

| LB, Lakeside | Contact: Miriam Schulingkamp, schuling@aol.com

TMBS&PG (Thursday Morning Prayer & Bible Study

Group) 7 a.m. | LB, Riverside | Contact: Jane Rasi,

janerasi@gamil.com

Women's Bible Study will resume in January

YAF-PINTS (Young Adults & Families-Presbyterians

Imbibing in Necessary Theological Study) Wednesdays | 6:45 p.m. | LB, Lakeside | Contact: Bria Rault, bria@scapc.org

LB - Land Building | FFH - Frampton Fellowship Hall

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For more information on our beliefs, missions, ministries, programs, or staff contacts, visit www.scapc.org.